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Letter dated 20 August 2003 from the representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith, in my capacity as Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, a statement, dated 20 August 2003, issued by the Non-Aligned Movement on the bomb attack against the headquarters of the United Nations Mission, in Baghdad on 19 August 2003 (see annex).

On behalf of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, I request that the present letter and the statement annexed hereto be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rastam Mohd **Isa**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 20 August 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement on the bomb attack on the headquarters of the United Nations Mission in Baghdad, on 19 August 2003

Members of the Non-Aligned Movement are deeply shocked and dismayed by the bomb attack against the headquarters of the United Nations Mission in Baghdad on 19 August 2003, which has killed 17 people, including Mr. Sergio Vieira de Mello, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, as well as injuring many others. The Movement extends its sincere condolences and deepest sympathies to the victims, bereaved families and other affected individuals as a result of the attack.

While condemning this attack in the strongest possible terms, the Movement believes that such attacks cannot break the will of the international community to continue to extend all possible assistance to the Iraqi people to regain their national sovereignty.

Despite this attack, the Movement is convinced that the United Nations should continue to play its role in Iraq through the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI). The Movement encourages the Member States of the United Nations and the Secretary-General to remain steadfast in this regard.

The Movement welcomes the statements by the Security Council and the Secretary-General condemning the attack. The Movement reiterates its pledge to support the Secretary-General and the men and women who have dedicated their lives to the service of the United Nations in various missions all over the world. The Movement calls for enhanced security arrangements for them so that they can fulfil their mandate peacefully.

The Movement regards the attack not simply as an attack against the United Nations and its institutions but also as a despicable act of terror against the people of Iraq and the international community as a whole as well as against the principles that we stand for.

The Movement demands that the United Nations and its missions not be made targets for attacks by any party. Such attacks directed against the people and institution whose only aim is to assist the people of Iraq and others elsewhere deserve the strongest condemnation of the whole international community.

New York
20 August 2003